

Message Text

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ACTION ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 L-02 PM-03 IGA-01 SIG-02 AID-05

/025 W

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R 291057Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7916

UNCLAS BANGKOK 17106

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, TH, US

SUBJ: GAO SURVEY: CONTROL OVER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

REF: STATE 229960

1. EMBASSY HAS HAD TWO MEETINGS WITH GAO TEAM CONDUCTING SUBJECT SURVEY AND HAS ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTY IN ARRIVING AT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DEFINITION OF WHAT CONSTITUTES AN AGREEMENT.
2. GAO TEAM WOULD LIKE TO "BEGIN WITH THE UNIVERSE" BY CONSIDERING ALL TYPES OF GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING SUCH THINGS AS LEASES OF PROPERTY. THE TEAM HAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE USG AND THE RTG TO REDUCE MILITARY FORCES (EVEN MOVEMENTS INVOLVING NO MORE THAN 300 PERSONNEL) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SURVEY. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, FORMAL WRITTEN AGREEMENTS ARE NOT MADE ON TROOP REDUCTIONS. NO INSTRUMENT OF ANY KIND IS DRAWN UP AND SIGNED. RATHER, AGREEMENT IS REACHED ORALLY. THE ONLY JOINT DOCUMENTS ARE AGREED-UPON PRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS. INDEPENDENT MEMORANDA OF RECORD OR CONVERSATION ARE, OF COURSE, MADE BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS.
3. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE IN RESPONDING TO GAO REQUEST TO SEE MEMORANDA OF CONVERSATION AND OTHER RECORDS INVOLVING SUCH MATTERS AS TROOP REDUCTIONS. EMBASSY IS OF OPINION THAT THIS COULD BECOME AN ALMOST ENDLESS

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TASK SINCE OUR DEALINGS WITH THE RTG IN THE MANAGEMENT OF

U.S. MILITARY FORCES AND OTHER MATTERS EXTENSIVE.
KINTNER

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